

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (currently amended) An electrochemical device component, comprising:  
an active metal electrode having a first surface and a second surface;  
a protective composite on the first surface of the electrode, the composite comprising,  
a first material in contact with the electrode, the first material being ionically  
conductive and chemically compatible with the active metal, wherein the first material  
comprises a material selected from the group consisting of a composite reaction product  
of the active metal with a metal nitride, a composite reaction product of the active metal  
with silicon nitride, a composite reaction product of the active metal with a metal halide,  
a composite reaction product of the active metal with a metal phosphide, a reaction  
product of the active metal with red phosphorus, and a reaction product of the active  
metal with LiPON coated with a wetting layer; and  
a second material in contact with the first material, the second material being  
substantially impervious, ionically conductive and chemically compatible with the first  
material;  
wherein the ionic conductivity of the composite is at least  $10^{-7}$  S/cm.
2. (original) The component of claim 1, further comprising a current collector on the second  
surface of the active metal electrode.
3. (currently amended) The component of claim 1, wherein the second material is  
comprised in an comprises the sole electrolyte in a subsequently formed battery cell.
4. (currently amended) The component of claim 3, wherein the second material is the sole  
electrolyte in the subsequently formed battery cell further comprises an electrolyte.
5. (original) The component of claim 1, wherein the ionic conductivity of the second  
material is between about  $10^{-6}$  S/cm and  $10^{-3}$  S/cm.
6. (original) The component of claim 1, wherein the ionic conductivity of the second  
material is between about  $10^{-5}$  S/cm and  $10^{-4}$  S/cm.

7. (currently amended) The component of claim 1, wherein the ratio of the first material to the thickness of the second material in the composite is about 10 to 1000 microns less than 1-1000.
8. (original) The component of claim 1, wherein the active metal of the electrode is lithium or a lithium alloy.
9. (currently amended) The component of claim 8 ~~claim 1~~, wherein the first material comprises a material selected from the group consisting of a composite reaction product of Li active metal with a metal nitride Cu<sub>3</sub>N, active metal nitrides, active metal phosphides, and active metal halides, and active metal phosphorus-oxynitride glass.
10. (currently amended) The component of claim 9 ~~claim 1~~, wherein the metal nitride is selected from the group consisting of copper nitride, tin nitride, zinc nitride, iron nitride, cobalt nitride and aluminum nitride ~~first material~~ comprises a material selected from the group consisting of a composite reaction product of Li with Cu<sub>3</sub>N, Li<sub>3</sub>N, Li<sub>2</sub>P and LiI, LiBr, LiCl, LiF, and LiPON.
11. (original) The component of claim 1, wherein the second material comprises a material selected from the group consisting of glassy or amorphous metal ion conductors, ceramic active metal ion conductors, and glass-ceramic active metal ion conductors.
12. (original) The component of claim 1, wherein the second material comprises a material selected from the group consisting of LiPON, Li<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>.Li<sub>2</sub>S.SiS<sub>2</sub>, Li<sub>2</sub>S.GeS<sub>2</sub>.Ga<sub>2</sub>S<sub>3</sub>, LISICON, NASICON, sodium beta-alumina and lithium beta-alumina.
13. (original) The component of claim 1, wherein the first material comprises a complex of an active metal halide and a polymer.
14. (original) The component of claim 1, wherein the second material is an ion conductive glass-ceramic having the following composition:

Composition	mol %
P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	26-55%
SiO <sub>2</sub>	0-15%
GeO <sub>2</sub> + TiO <sub>2</sub>	25-50%
in which GeO <sub>2</sub>	0-50%

TiO <sub>2</sub>	0-50%
ZrO <sub>2</sub>	0-10%
M <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	0 < 10%
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	0-15%
Ga <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	0-15%
Li <sub>2</sub> O	3-25%

and containing a predominant crystalline phase composed of  $Li_{1+x}(M, Al, Ga)_x(Ge_{1-y}Ti_y)_{2-x}(PO_4)_3$  where  $X \leq 0.8$  and  $0 \leq Y \leq 1.0$ , and where M is an element selected from the group consisting of Nd, Sm, Eu, Gd, Tb, Dy, Ho, Er, Tm and Yb and/or and  $Li_{1+x+y}Q_xTi_{2-x}Si_yP_{3-y}O_{12}$  where  $0 < X \leq 0.4$  and  $0 < Y \leq 0.6$ , and where Q is Al or Ga.

15. (original) The component of claim 1, wherein the second material is a flexible membrane comprising particles of an ion conductive glass-ceramic having the following composition:

Composition	mol %
P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	26-55%
SiO <sub>2</sub>	0-15%
GeO <sub>2</sub> + TiO <sub>2</sub>	25-50%
in which GeO <sub>2</sub>	0-50%
TiO <sub>2</sub>	0-50%
ZrO <sub>2</sub>	0-10%
M <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	0 < 10%
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	0-15%
Ga <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	0-15%
Li <sub>2</sub> O	3-25%

and containing a predominant crystalline phase composed of  $Li_{1+x}(M, Al, Ga)_x(Ge_{1-y}Ti_y)_{2-x}(PO_4)_3$  where  $X \leq 0.8$  and  $0 \leq Y \leq 1.0$ , and where M is an element selected from the group consisting of

Nd, Sm, Eu, Gd, Tb, Dy, Ho, Er, Tm and Yb and/or and  $Li_{1+x+y}Q_xTi_{2-x}Si_yP_{3-y}O_{12}$  where  $0 < X \leq 0.4$  and  $0 < Y \leq 0.6$ , and where Q is Al or Ga in a solid polymer electrolyte.

16. (original) The component of claim 1, wherein the protective composite is a laminate of discrete layers of the first material and the second material.

17. (original) The component of claim 1, wherein the protective composite comprises a gradual transition between the first material and the second material.

18-20. (canceled)

21. (new) The component of claim 10, wherein the metal nitride is copper nitride ( $Cu_3N$ ).

22. (new) The component of claim 8, wherein the first material comprises a material selected from the group consisting of a composite reaction product of Li with a metal halide.

23. (new) The component of claim 8, wherein the first material comprises a material selected from the group consisting of a composite reaction product of Li with a metal phosphide.

24. (new) The component of claim 8, wherein the first material comprises a material selected from the group consisting of a reaction product of Li with red phosphorus.

25. (new) The component of claim 8, wherein the first material comprises a material selected from the group consisting of a reaction product of Li with LiPON coated with a wetting layer.

26. (new) The component of claim 25, wherein the wetting layer coating is Ag.

27. (new) The component of claim 25, wherein the wetting layer coating is Sn.